

Message Text

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62

ACTION SY-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 A-01 /015 W

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R 151128Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2895

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2090

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: FULLY ARMORED CARS, SECURITY FOLLOW CAR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 004686, 004685, 027101

1. 1971 IMPALA FULLY ARMORED, SN 164691C83049,
MILEAGE 56,340. WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO TEL AVIV
DURING NEXT MONTH. WITH PROPER MAINTENANCE SHOULD
LAST AT LEAST 5 YEARS.

2. 1971 PLYMOUTH FURY I FOLLOW CAR, SN PK 41TID269800,
MILEAGE 44024. WITH PROPER MAINTENANCE SHOULD LAST AT
LEAST 5 YEARS POST ENDEAVORING HAVE CAR ASSIGNED
TO EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICERS. SEPARATE MESSAGE WAS SENT RE THIS
SITUATION BUT NO REPLY TO DATE.

3. 1974 CHEVROLET BEL AIR, SN IK69Y4Y153216, MILEAGE
01861. NEW, ESTIMATE PROBABLE SEFUL LIFE 8 TO 10 YEARS.

4. 1974 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER JUST ARRIVED, WILL TRANSFER
RADIO WHILE AMBASSADOR ON LEAVE. HOWEVER RCO INDICATES
THIS IS TIME:CONSUMING JOB SINCE NO TUNNEL LEFT THROUGH
ARMOR TO RUN NECESSARY WIRING. ALSO HAVE NO INFORMATION
AS TO USE OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE BATTERY BOX WITH SEVERAL
WIRES IN LEFT OF TRUNK AND SMALL BUE BOX ON SHELF
BEHIND REAR SEAT. BOTH AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER AND GSO,
WHO HAVE DRIVEN THIS VEHICLE COMPLAIN OF EXTREME
DISTORTION IN SIDE WINDOWS AND "CLOUDING" EFFECT OF BOTH
SUN AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHT AGAINST WINDSHIELD. DRIVER ALSO
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FEELS BRAKES INADEQUATE BUT THIS MAY BE DUE TO WEIGHT

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHRYSLER AND IMPALA.

5. BOTH CREW AND PASSENGERS ON YUGOSLAV SHIP TRANSPORTING
THE CHRYSLER WERE FULLY AWARE OF ITS COST, WEIGHT AND
THE BALLISTIC ABILITY OF BOTH THE TRANSPARENT AND METALLIC
ARMOR. INFORMATION POSSIBLY PICKED UP BY CREW WHEN
LOADING VEHICLE IN CALIFORNIA FROM BUILDER'S EMPLOYEES.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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